

JAMES HOOTEN.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 352.]

MARCH 19, 1860.

Ma. WOODRUFF, from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads,  
made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, having in due consideration the memorial of James Hooten, of Preston county, Virginia, asking indemnification for the loss of postage stamps, beg leave to make the following report :*

It appears from the evidence in the case that in the year 1859 James Hooten, the petitioner, was acting as postmaster at Rowlesburg, a station on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad ; that on the night of the 28th of October, in said year, the storehouse in which the post office was kept was burglariously entered, and, in addition to goods stolen, *ninety* dollars' worth of stamps were abstracted from the desk in which he kept them locked.

It further appears that said Hooten is a poor young man, and that upon the testimony of one hundred witnesses, whose names are appended to his memorial, he possesses the entire confidence of the community in the vicinity of which he resides ; that the post office had for several years been kept in the aforesaid storehouse, it having always been considered a safe place, and that said Hooten never failed to take reasonable care of everything pertaining to the office.

There are also attached to the memorial the affidavits of several witnesses, who testify under oath to the truthfulness of the above statements.

In consideration of these facts, your committee ask to report the annexed bill, and recommend its passage.

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